



NewsNotes March 2023

Greetings!

Lent is upon us and there are a few suggestions below on how we may act positively for change rather than just give up something we like.

Our new justice minister in the UK suggests some prayer to help discern answers to river pollution in the UK.

NETWORK offers a step on the road to racial healing by asking President Biden to issue an executive order to establish a commission to look at reparations due to descendants of formerly enslaved African Americans.

There are many offering by Waterspirit to learn or to pray for healing of our environment.

There is a link to the movie about Pope Francis and Laudato Si' called **The Letter**. It might make a nice evening of reflection to watch the movie with a friend or two and to have a meaningful discussion afterwards. It might be an important 90 minutes.

What actions we take for justice are being multiplied throughout the world as more and more congregations, parishes and families are joining the Laudato Si' Action Plan.

Peace and all good,

Frank

Frank McCann
Peace through Justice Facilitator
Congregation's NGO Representative to the UN

RESPONSE
TO THE CRY
OF THE EARTH



It is time to conclude the high seas treaty



From the Guardian Global edition

Almost two-thirds of the world's ocean lies outside national boundaries. These are the "high seas", where fragmented and loosely enforced rules have meant a vast portion of the planet, hundreds of miles from land, is often essentially lawless.

Because of this, the high seas are more susceptible than coastal seas to exploitation. Currently, all countries can navigate, fish (or overfish) and carry out scientific research on the high seas practically at will. [Only 1.2%](#) of it is protected, and the increasing reach of fishing and shipping vessels, the threat of deep-sea mining, and new activities, such as ["bioprospecting" of marine species](#), mean they are being threatened like never before.

Yet, not only does a healthy ocean provide half of the oxygen we breathe, it represents [95% of the planet's biosphere](#), soaks up carbon dioxide and is Earth's [largest carbon sink](#).

This week, delegates from 193 member states will begin the final talks at the

UN headquarters in New York to conclude negotiations for what scientists have described as [a "once in a lifetime" chance to at last protect the high seas](#). Aimed at shielding huge swathes of the world's ocean from exploitation, the talks – officially called the [Intergovernmental Conference on Marine Biodiversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction](#), or BBNJ – are the fifth round of negotiations, which ended last August without agreement. The current round of talks began last week and will end on 3 March.

The pressure is on. Last month, the UN secretary general, António Guterres, weighed in with strong words, saying the ocean was on the "frontlines" of the war against nature, and calling on nations to stop squabbling and conclude the delayed negotiations.

[Read the full story here.](#)

Choose "The Letter" for a Lent evening of reflection



The Letter tells the story of a journey to Rome of frontline leaders to discuss the encyclical letter *Laudato Si'* with Pope Francis. The exclusive dialogue with the Pope, included in the film, offers a revealing insight into the personal history of Pope Francis and stories never seen since he became the Bishop of Rome.

Use this link to watch the You Tube original video:

<https://youtu.be/Rps9bs85BII>

Pollution in the UK Rivers



Bridge over River Severn Photo by Elliott Brown

by David Richardson

What will the UK government do about the environment in which we live?

Water pollution originates from three primary sources, agricultural runoff, sewage overflows, and industrial discharge.

The I newspaper reports that the river Wye is an example of the impact of such pollution. It is 155 miles long and one of the longest rivers in the UK, flowing from the Welsh Cambrian mountains to the Severn Estuary in the Bristol channel. The watercourse ecosystem of wildlife, including swans, herons, cormorants, otters, Atlantic salmon, freshwater pearl mussels, and white-clawed crayfish, to name but a few but all of which are on a precipice due to continued water pollution.

The pollution mainly originates from high phosphate levels, typical for most UK rivers, which encourage algae growth taking away light and space and suffocating the river. The phosphorus primarily originates from agricultural runoff.

Professor Paul Withers, a river expert at Lancaster University, found that 3,100 tonnes of phosphorus from agriculture accumulate in the Wye catchment area each year – from where it gradually washes into the river.

In 2022 lake Windermere, England's largest natural lake, turned green due to an algal bloom driven by phosphorus and nitrogen. The River Cam suffers from phosphate pollution 70 times above the acceptable limit. With such pollution, it is easy to see how England's rivers, have the worst water quality in Europe. Just 14 per cent have water quality that meets "good ecological status". Every English river has chemical contamination, and they are becoming toxic time bombs!

The Times Newspaper reports that three-quarters of the English rivers breach

proposed safety levels of per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) known as forever chemicals because of their persistent nature, which are thought to be linked to lower birth weights and higher cholesterol levels and other effects on people's health.

So where does this leave the UK? It can't continue with the detrimental decline of its rivers or the environment. The government's response has been twofold. The introduction of the 25-Year Environmental Plan and the UK Environmental Act is the UK's strategy for restoring and enhancing our rivers and environment.

The Environment Act 2021 is a law that supports and implements some key elements of the UK 25-Year Environment Plan. For example, it requires the government to set legally binding targets on air quality, water quality, biodiversity and waste reduction; it establishes an independent watchdog to monitor and enforce environmental standards; it introduces new measures to protect nature and reduce pollution; and it obliges all government ministers to consider environmental principles when making policy decisions.

However, there are shortcomings of the Act that environmental campaigners and experts have highlighted. For instance, it gives too much discretion to ministers to set and amend environmental targets, standards and regulations without proper parliamentary scrutiny or public consultation. Additionally, it limits the OEP's independence and powers to hold public authorities accountable for breaching environmental law, such as imposing fines or seeking judicial review.

The UK 25-Year Environmental Plan, although it predominantly covers England, is a vision for improving the environment in England over 25 years. It was published by the UK government in 2018 and revised in 2023. It sets goals for enhancing natural beauty, wildlife, clean air and water, resource efficiency and climate resilience. It does not provide a joined-up approach across the government departments and inconsistent water pollution monitoring. Neither is there enough funding or incentives for implementing its actions nor does it ensure adequate enforcement or accountability for non-compliance. The Guardian reports that the agriculture sector may be given until 2040 to reduce waterway pollution to 40%, which is too long.

The 25 Year environment plan is reviewed every five years, so collectively, we can influence how the plan evolves to ensure our waterways are protected. There are things that we can do to hold the UK government to account and protect our waters. Most national newspapers and independent organisations have campaigns you can subscribe to. Write to your local MP or Counsellor and pray. If you would like to know more, I have provided links below.

Prayer points

- Pray that the government will fully consider the fundamental right that all people and our earth have to clean water.
- Pray for our media, pressure groups and faith communities to respond to the need for clean water.
- Pray for Wisdom that all of us will know how to proceed in protecting our water, a most precious gift, for God says, If someone among you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives to all generously and without finding fault, and it will be given to him. James 1:5

Further Reading & Action

Government 25 yr plan-<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/25-year-environment-plan/25-year-environment-plan-our-targets-at-a-glance>

Article- <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2023/jan/19/uk-watchdog-failing-to-keep-environment-promises-england-improvement-plan-wildlife-delcine>

Articles and data on rivers-<https://theriverstrust.org/our-work/data-evidence>

Article- <https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/3b46657e-b6ae-11ed-a1e6-75eebc433c21?shareToken=3a3a8fbd888143e182346fcc101a0e51>

Find your MP- <https://members.parliament.uk/FindYourMP>

Find your local councillor- <https://www.gov.uk/find-your-local-councillors>

Campaign-<https://www.sas.org.uk/take-action/campaign-for-the-ocean/>

Seal monitoring at Sandy Hook

March 8 -2:00 PM

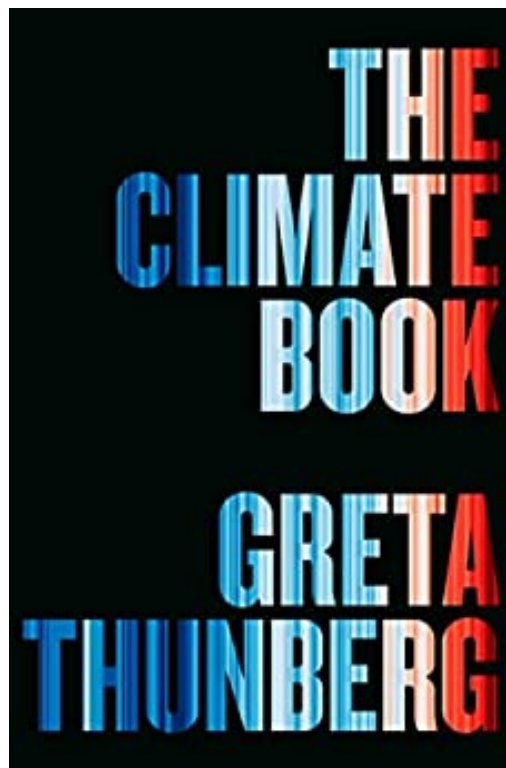
Join Waterspirit Program Manager, Anne Price, as we monitor seals at Sandy Hook National Recreation Area. Did you know there are several species of seal which visit NJ? The seals feed and then haul out to rest and digest.

Join Waterspirit at Sandy Hook to see the seals in person. We will watch the seals and record data to report. While we are there, we will discuss all of the wildlife around us. Meeting at Spermaceti Cove Parking Area.



[For more information or to register please visit our website https://www.waterspirit.org/events-calendar](https://www.waterspirit.org/events-calendar)

High praise for Climate by Greta Thunberg



Review from [Yale Climate Connections](#) by Michael Svoboda

When I first heard about the climate book project being edited by [Greta Thunberg](#), the Swedish “Fridays for the Future” climate striker, I was skeptical. Having curated Yale Climate Connections’ monthly [bookshelf](#) collection since early 2015, I was acquainted with over 1,000 books and reports that address climate change in some way, including dozens of guides, handbooks, introductions, and primers. Did we really need another overview on climate change?

Yes, I can say after reading “The Climate Book.” Yes, we do. It’s the most ambitious, wide-ranging, and hard-hitting collection I have ever encountered. And it’s all inspired by the young woman who so publicly dared to speak truth to power at [Davos](#) and [the U.N.](#) on climate change.

One hundred authors contributed 90 short pieces (of one to nine pages) to “The Climate Book.” Included in that number are scientists who endured decades on the front lines of climate science and policy (Drew Shindell, Michael Oppenheimer); the authors of the first popular books on climate change (Bill McKibben, Elizabeth Kolbert, Eugen Linden, Michael Mann, George Monbiot); one of the most widely read authors of climate fiction (Margaret Atwood); the historian of science who first established the scientific consensus on climate change (Naomi Oreskes); biologists (Ayana Elizabeth Johnson, Robin Wall Kimmerer, Wanjira Mathai), economists (Thomas Piketty, Kate Raworth, Nicholas Stern); and social scientists (Erica Chenoweth, Naomi Klein).

This impressive roster is a tribute to the 101st contributor to “The Climate Book,” the 20-year-old Thunberg, whose 18 short essays introduce the volume, mark the subsections, highlight the important takeaways, and call readers to action. It’s hard to imagine another figure, of any age, who could inspire such a grand collective effort.



Lenten Action for Racial Healing

Looking for an action for Lent? One path of action is supporting reparations for Black Americans, a policy NETWORK champions because all of us, whether we are Black, Brown, or white, should have equitable participation in our country’s economy and our politics. [I invite you to take action this week by writing a letter to President Biden, asking him to establish a commission on reparations.](#)

Since HR 40 is not likely to get a vote in the current congress we are asking the President to set up the commission by Executive Order.

HR 40 is named after the 40 acres and a mule promised by President Lincoln but never received by freed slaves. The bill calls for a \$14 million appropriation to establish and convene a commission to:

- Establish a commission to study and develop reparation proposals for African-Americans.
- Examine slavery and discrimination in the colonies and the U.S. from 1619 to the present and recommend appropriate remedies.
- Identify the role of Federal and state governments in supporting the institution of slavery.
- Identify forms of discrimination in the public and private sectors against freed slaves and their descendants
- Identify lingering negative effects of slavery on living African-Americans and society.
- Recommend ways to education the American Public about the Commission's findings
- Recommend appropriate redress actions

HR 40 has been introduced in Congress every year since 1989, but never passed. It has been introduced in the 118th Congress by Rep Shirley Jackson Lee and a companion bill has been introduced in the Senate by NJ Senator Cory Booker.

The establishment of the commission DOES NOT impose reparations, but initiates the study of the points indicated above, that would then require legislative action.

[Visit here for details on how to write the letter.](#)

Injustice grows at the US-Mexican Border

Recent decisions by the Biden administration are making it harder for immigrants to apply for asylum in the US. Currently, the approach to the border is still restricted by Title 42-imposed by Trump-as a pretense to prevent immigrants from bringing Covid into the US. That very weak justification for Title 42 will evaporate when by the administration's decision, the Covid crisis will legally end on May 11, 2023.

The Biden administration has tried to renegotiate a "remain in Mexico" policy with the Mexican government but Mexico has refused that option. One proposed rule change would deny an asylum claim to anyone who came to the US through another country where they did not apply for asylum.

New "reforms" have been initiated that allow those seeking asylum to use a CBP One smartphone app that would allow asylum seekers to make appointments to meet with border officials and make their case for asylum. However, the app has many glitches and is difficult to access and use. One part of the difficulty is a built-in facial recognition software that has an obvious bias against darker skin people, who because of skin tones, are unable to

upload their photos, a necessary part of the application. Some groups on the border have started using bright lights to lighten skin tones, which works for adults but not for children. According to officials, newer, \$1,000 cell phones work better with the app, but most people in the migrant camps do not have that kind of money to spend on a new phone.

There is only a 30 day period to object to this change in rule. Further information will follow on how to forward objections.

Boat and bodies wash up on Italian shores

From UN News

“Every person searching for a better life deserves safety and dignity,” UN [Secretary-General António Guterres](#) said. “We need safe, legal routes for migrants and refugees.”

The UN refugee agency (UNHCR) and the International Organization for Migration ([IOM](#)), in a joint statement, expressed condolences for the victims and called on countries to increase resources and capabilities to effectively meet their responsibilities.

As of Sunday evening, 45 lifeless bodies had been recovered, but ongoing search and rescue teams fear the death toll could be worse, the agencies said. News reports said a newborn and small children were among the dead. Reports indicate that at least 170 people were on board the small vessel, including children and families. The UN refugee agency said that information received shows that there may be as many as 80 survivors. Some of them have been hospitalized for treatment.

“It is unacceptable to witness such horrors, with families and children entrusted to unseaworthy boats,” said Chiara Cardoletti, the UNHCR representative for Italy, the Holy See and San Marino. “This tragedy must prompt us to act and act now.”

The boat had left Turkey, with many passengers coming from Afghanistan and Pakistan. In 2022, people from Turkey accounted for around 15 per cent of total arrivals by sea in Italy, UNHCR said, noting that nearly half of the people arriving along this route were people fleeing Afghanistan. The agencies said European Union mechanisms for rescue operations are “urgently needed”.

To avoid tragedies like this, Ms. Cardoletti said, it is “more necessary than ever before to strengthen the rescue capacity, which is still insufficient”. Laurence Hart, director of the IOM Coordination Office for the Mediterranean, said this shipwreck demonstrates how the phenomenon of migration by sea must be tackled by all European nations.

This requires humanitarian support and adopting an approach that considers the multiple drivers that are causing people to flee, she said.

The IOM Missing Migrants Project reports that at least 220 people, including those who perished on Sunday, have died or gone missing along the central Mediterranean route in 2023.

When the US Bishops were at their prophetic best

By Tony Magliano

In 1983 tension between the U.S. and the Soviet Union was running high. The military-industrial complex was developing and producing increasingly dangerous weapons of mass destruction at record pace. Both nations were preparing to fight and “win” a nuclear war.

In the midst of this insanity the Catholic bishops of the United States rose to the occasion by issuing “The Challenge of Peace: God’s Promise and Our Response.” Writing their pastoral letter with faith, courage, and vision, they boldly challenged American foreign policy and individual consciences. I believe it was their finest moment!

“We are the first generation since Genesis with the power to virtually destroy God’s creation. We cannot remain silent in the face of such danger. We are simply trying to live up to the call of Jesus to be peacemakers in our time and situation.” The bishops added that their letter was a challenge to Catholics in the U.S. to join with all others of good will “in shaping the conscious choices and deliberate policies required in this “moment of supreme crisis.”

Forty years have passed, and we are still in this moment of supreme crisis. In fact, according to the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists’ famous “Doomsday Clock” the world is now at 90 seconds to catastrophic midnight – closer to global destruction than the “Doomsday Clock” has ever warned!

Thousands of nuclear missiles of the United States and Russia remain aimed at each other on highly dangerous hair-trigger alert! Not only is nuclear war now highly possible, but also a very conceivable accident could cause unthinkable death and destruction at any moment.

In “The Challenge of Peace” the bishops declared: “Under no circumstances may nuclear weapons or other instruments of mass slaughter be used for the purpose of destroying population centres or other predominantly civilian targets.” Yet, missiles are cocked and ready to do just that.

Way back in 1983 the bishops agreed to a strictly conditioned moral acceptance of nuclear deterrence, which rejected any U.S. strategy seeking nuclear superiority. “Nuclear deterrence should be used as a step on the way toward progressive disarmament ...We cannot consider it adequate as a long-term basis for peace.”

However, 40 years have passed, and nuclear deterrence is now a permanent fixture of not only American military strategy, but also of all the other nine nuclear powers.

It is long overdue for today’s U.S. bishops, all other bishops, and all sane, peace-loving people of faith, to declare that the conditions for moral acceptance of nuclear deterrence have not been met, and demand that President Biden, the U.S. Congress, and other international leaders put total global nuclear disarmament on the diplomatic fast track.

Therefore, with Pope John Paul II we declare: “Today, the scale and the horror of modern warfare — whether nuclear or not — makes it totally

unacceptable as a means of settling differences between nations. War should belong to the tragic past, to history; it should find no place on humanity's agenda for the future."

With prophetic warning Pope Francis declared: "The use of atomic energy for purposes of war is immoral, just as the possessing of nuclear weapons is immoral, as I already said two years ago. We will be judged on this" (see: <https://cutt.ly/Ne1emEG>).

As a first step, please visit "Back from the Brink" and click "Take Action" (see: <https://www.preventnuclearwar.org/>).

There is no time to waste!

[Tony Magliano](#) is an internationally syndicated Catholic social justice and peace columnist and speaker.



Poor People's March announces day of Action in New Jersey for March 21

Third Act, founded by prominent environmentalist, Bill McKibben, aims to harness the power, passion, and experience of the nation's seniors to tackle the two greatest crises we face, climate change and authoritarian assaults on democracy.

Third Act is taking the fight to save our planet directly to the obscenely wealthy and mega corporations who invest heavily in fossil fuels.

On March 21, a National Day of Action, New Jersey seniors and union retirees will gather at 3 PM at the corner of Bloomfield Ave and South Fullerton Avenues in Montclair to then March about a block to Chase Bank at 19 North Fullerton Ave for the action scheduled to end by 5 PM.

For more information, about Third Act go to: <https://thirdact.org>

All are encouraged to ask friends and family to join the action.



Climate Pastoral Care Course Drop-In Session

Your copy should address 3 key questions: Who am I writing for? (Audience) Why should they care? (Benefit) What do I want them to do here? (Call-to-Action)

Create a great offer by adding words like "free" "personalized" "complimentary" or "customized." A sense of urgency often helps readers take an action, so think about inserting phrases like "for a limited time only" or "only 7 remaining"!

Beach Cleanup

Saturday, March 11, 10 AM - Noon at Monmouth Beach Bathing Pavilion

Waterspirit will be joining forces with our friends from Save Coastal Wildlife to protect our precious water by doing some beach clean-ups. Our next scheduled beach clean-up is happening at Monmouth Beach on 3/11/23 from 10 am - noon. Please join us. Together we can make a difference.

Please bring gloves. Wear clothes that can get dirty. Please wear boots or old shoes that can get muddy. We need lots of people to help remove lots of trash!

Parking in Monmouth Beach Bathing Pavilion Parking Lot
GPS Address: 29 Ocean Ave N, Monmouth Beach, NJ 07750

[Learn more.](#)

Garden State Film Festival

Saturday, March 25 2:45 pm

Waterspirit has entered a video to the 2023 Garden State Film Festival and we have been accepted! Our video, **Waterspirit's Mindfulness Moment**, will be screened at the festival on Saturday, Mar. 25 2023, 2:45 pm in the Berkley Hotel CONTINENTAL BALLROOM. 1110 Highway 35 Ocean Township, NJ 07712

<https://www.gsff.org/tickets/>



Have you seen our Mindfulness Moment videos on social media? Program manager Anne Price creates a weekly video to help our friends center their mind and replenish their energy. Mindfulness practices simple techniques to help us all show up more fully.

Follow Waterspirit on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) or [LinkedIn](#) to watch them all.

Rain Barrel Workshop with Waterspirit

Wednesday, March 29 6-7:30 PM

[BUY TICKETS HERE](#) to join Waterspirit to make and take your own Rain Barrel.

WILD in the Garden State

Wednesday, April 5 6-7:30 PM
4 E. River Road, Rumson, NJ 07760

[REGISTER HERE](#) to join Waterspirit for a special screening of the film "WILD" in the Garden State by Sarah Galloway.



Waterspirit's Spring Equinox will take place on March 20



March 20 7 pm.

Daylight is lengthening, temperatures are warming, trees are blooming and we are celebrating. Join Waterspirit and musical guest **Andreea Fegan** as we celebrate the arrival of Spring. The Spring Equinox is a time to reflect on the freshness and excitement of the rebirth of nature. We look forward to the April showers which will water our gardens and bring forth new life.

Bring your family and friends (and your rain stick instruments) and join in the celebration in person at 4 East River Rd, Rumson
<https://waterspirit.kindful.com/e/waterspirits-spring-equinox-celebration-1> or livestreamed on Waterspirit's YouTube Channel.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCFzJckCctU22hEjrmoLitwQ>

The Congregation's Spring Faith Sharing sessions will take place
March 31 and April 1



In Laudato Si' we are told that we all need to continue to deepen our ecological conversions which are not one-time events, but a journey throughout our life that should deepen our experience of God's presence in the natural world. Material will be arriving shortly to invite you to join with your CSG or self-organized group, or in congregation wide zoom sessions that will take place on Friday, March 31 and Saturday April 1. We will be sharing early life experiences in nature.

Meditation for Earth



Please join Waterspirit every Tuesday at 12:15 PM for a "Meditation for Earth." We read a short blessing, followed by an excerpt from Hal Borland's '12 moons of the Year'. Then we lead a simple meditation followed with silence, for a flourishing Earth. The meditation and silence is approximately 30 minutes.

There are two ways to meditate with us: In-person in the Sanctuary at the First Presbyterian Church of Rumson. 4 East River Road, Rumson, NJ. Or Online on our YouTube channel. No matter where you are in the world, you can join us as we meditate for our Earth!

[Find the Meditation on the Waterspirit YouTube Channel.](#)



NJ Advocates deliver NETWORK Certificate to Senator Booker in Newark



Photo by Frank McCann

On Friday, February 17, Jane Egan a NETWORK activist from St. Mary's parish in Pompton Lakes and Frank McCann, Peace through Justice Facilitator for the Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace met with Madilyn Somers and Joseph Sgroi of Senator Booker's staff at the Senator's office in Newark. The purpose of the meeting was to deliver to the Senator his certificate for a 100% voting in the on the six pieces of Senate legislation scored by NETWORK in the 117th Congress.

We were welcomed into the office and after presenting the certificate, nicely framed by Jane, we had extended conversation about the issues on which NETWORK is active and discussed the concerns of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace regarding immigration and the denial of access to asylum at the southern border. We asked that Senator Booker express our concerns to the President who is making it harder for immigrants to approach the border.

We also expressed appreciation for the Senator's support for HR 40 which calls

for the establishment of a commission on reparations. (See story above Lenten Action for Racial Healing.)

Working on Advocacy with NETWORK lobby

In hope of improving our Congregation's advocacy impacts (LSAP Goal 7) we have been talking with NETWORK, the Catholic Sisters social justice lobby in Washington. I have been meeting with them monthly with a small group of activists from New Jersey on the first Wednesday of each month. To make it more timely for the publication of NewsNotes, they have agreed to shift the meeting to the last Wednesday of the month and to meet from 7-8 PM Eastern time. We will get an update each month on what is happening of concern to us in the US Capitol. Suggestions will be made regarding calls or letters to legislators on important issues which I will publish in the next NewsNotes. If anyone from NJ wants to join those zoom meetings, let me know and I will pass on the zoom call invitation.

February International Days

- 01 Mar [World Seagrass Day \(A/RES/76/265\)](#)
 - 01 Mar [Zero Discrimination Day \[UNAIDS\]](#)
 - 03 Mar [World Wildlife Day \(A/RES/68/205\)](#)
 - 05 Mar [International Day for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Awareness \(A/RES/77/51\)](#)
 - 08 Mar [International Women's Day](#)
 - 10 Mar [International Day of Women Judges \(A/RES/75/274\)](#)
 - 15 Mar [International Day to Combat Islamophobia \(A/RES/76/254\)](#)
 - 17 Mar [St. Patrick's Day](#)
 - 19 Mar [St. Joseph's Day](#)
 - 20 Mar [International Day of Happiness \(A/RES/66/281\)](#)
 - 20 Mar [French Language Day](#)
 - 21 Mar [International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination \(A/RES/2142 \(XXI\)\)](#)
 - 21 Mar Week of Solidarity with the Peoples Struggling against Racism and Racial Discrimination, 21-27 March ([A/RES/34/24](#))
 - 21 Mar [World Poetry Day \[UNESCO\] \(UNESCO 30 C/Resolution 29\)](#)
 - 21 Mar [International Day of Nowruz \(A/RES/64/253\)](#)
 - 21 Mar [World Down Syndrome Day \(A/RES/66/149\)](#)
 - 21 Mar [International Day of Forests \(A/RES/67/200\)](#)
 - 22 Mar [World Water Day \(A/RES/47/193\)](#)
 - 23 Mar [World Meteorological Day \(WMO/EC-XII/Res.6\)](#)
 - 24 Mar [World Tuberculosis Day \[WHO\]](#)
 - 24 Mar [International Day for the Right to the Truth concerning Gross Human Rights Violations and for the Dignity of Victims \(A/RES/65/196\)](#)
 - 25 Mar [International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade \(A/RES/62/122\)](#)
 - 25 Mar [International Day of Solidarity with Detained and Missing Staff Members \(A/RES/49/59\)](#)
 - 30 Mar [International Day of Zero Waste \(A/RES/77/161\)](#)
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